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Assistant Director for Operations

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Chief, FEIB

**Increase in Volume and Complexity of Foreign Broadcast Monitoring
since the Fall of 1947**

1. In the past year approximately 100 new foreign broadcast transmitters have begun operation. In addition to routine surveillance of existing transmitters, these new ones have been logged as to frequency, hours of operation and program schedule, investigated for indications of power and control, studied as to type of material broadcast in relation to material from other transmitters and assigned to field stations for such coverage as is warranted.

2. More significantly, about 180 foreign transmitters formerly devoted to domestic broadcasting only, or with limited services to neighboring countries, have initiated or expanded international broadcasting in other languages. Such new international services, approximately 5,000 hours per week, make it possible to monitor, in addition to the domestic affairs of the countries in question, their foreign propaganda and international relations as reflected in radio broadcasts. With limited staff and communications facilities at FEIB disposal, however, it is necessary to evaluate each such foreign service as to significance for monitoring purposes. For example, it becomes necessary to determine not only the degree of thoroughness with which Spanish Home Service should be monitored, but also the type of coverage suitable for Madrid broadcasts in Polish, not only the value of Harbin broadcasts in Mandarin but also whether significant propaganda is beamed from the Chinese Communist transmitter to the Japanese, not only the priority which must be assigned Bulgarian Home Service but also the impact of Sofia broadcasts in Greek.

3. Through this selective process it is possible, in the face of rapidly expanding broadcast practice, to maintain satisfactory worldwide coverage with limited staff and facilities. Nevertheless some increase in the number of transmissions monitored daily has been necessary. From a total of some 210 hours in 1947 the figure of broadcasts monitored daily has now risen to 227, and it is estimated that the completed relocation of field stations will sufficiently widen the range of audibility that 237 hours of broadcast will be the minimum for adequate coverage.

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